

15 May 1957

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[REDACTED] Targets for Poland

Objective II d.

"The strengths and weaknesses of the Soviet economy, with particular reference to its ability to support a major war; the motivation, character, and magnitude of current economic, political, and military strength of the Soviet Bloc; the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the Soviet and Satellite internal communications systems."

Background

We have a continuing responsibility to estimate the transport capabilities of Poland. It is necessary that we have rather accurate figures on inventories of railroad motive power and rolling stock, motor trucks, floating stock in inland shipping and merchant ships in order to provide definitive estimates of these capabilities. These inventory figures are not available from published sources such as the Polish Statistical Yearbook, Polish technical periodicals on transportation, and Polish statistical periodicals. Nor are they available in any other sources available to the Agency.

Although we need the inventory figures primarily to determine if the transportation system is capable of meeting the traffic requirements of the economy, they would serve also to determine the capabilities of the system to move various types of military equipment. It would thus improve our estimates of Soviet capabilities to launch a military offensive by use of Polish transport.

Basic Guidance

We think that the inventory figures referred to are available in a transportation "handbook" or "yearbook" that the Poles furnish only to rather high officials in the various ministries of transport. The handbook probably is classified "Secret".

Although we are primarily interested in inventory data, the handbook probably would contain other useful statistics on the performance of Polish transportation. Therefore, we are interested in getting a copy of all or any part of the handbook.

~~SECRET~~

Target

Transportation Yearbook
or Handbook probably
classified "Secret"

Location

Central Statistical Bureau;
Office of Ministry of Rail-
roads; a Railroad Management
Office in one of the principal
cities; Office of Ministry of
Road and Air Transport; Office
of Ministry of Shipping; Govern-
ment Port Departments in major
ports.

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Distribution:

original and 1 - 25X1A9a

1 - Addressee

1 - [REDACTED]

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